(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The proposal was forwarded for submission to the Group of Ministers on 13.1.1995. One sitting of the Group of Ministers has already been held. The financial projections given in the proposals still hold good.

Acquisition of majority shares by union carbide

1742. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Calcutta-based multinational Mc Leod Russel India has acquired a majority controlling share in Union Carbide;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how does it affect the interests of the Bhopal gas victims, including the feelings for mitigating the hardships and treatment of the persons affected by various ailments resulting from the gas leak?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) M/s Mcleod Russel (India) Ltd. (MRIL) is a public limited company incorporated on March, 1976 under the Companies Act, 1956. This company is engaged in the business of growing, manufacturing and sale of Tea. It is a member of the Williamson Magor Group of companies which is headed by Mr. B. M. Khaitan. The Company has acquired 50.0 per cent of the equity shares of Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) held by Union Carbide Corporation (UCC), USA. These shares have been sold by the Trustee of the Bhopal Hospital Trust on the directions of the Supreme Court The shares have been sold so that Rs. 60 crores could be made available for the construction of a hospital at Bhopal for the treatment of the persons affected by various ailments resulting from the gas leak.

Price control of drugs required under National Health Policy

1743. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state whether drugs required for control of diseases under National Health Policy have been kept under the price control under the New Drug Policy; if so, the names of the drugs under price control as well as those left tt the free market pressures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): In accordance with the criteria laid down in the 'Modifications in the Drug Policy, 1986, 4 bulk drugs viz. (1) Streptomycin (under National T. B. Eradication Programme); Tetracycline Mcl (under National Trachoma Control Programme and National Programme for control of blindness); (3) Chloroquine; and (4) Amodiaquin (under National Malaria Eradication Programme) come under the price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Order, 1995. The remaining 17 bulk drugs out of the earlier list of 21 drugs under DPCO, 1987, which do not come under price control on the basis of above criteria are as under:

S.No.	Name of the Bulk Drug
1.	Isoniazid
2.	Thiacetazone
3.	Ethambutol
4.	Sodium PAS
5.	Pyrazinamide
6.	Dapsone
7.	Clofazibine
8.	Pilocarpine
9.	Hydrocortisone
10.	Iodoxuridine